Application Number: 10/726,061 Reply to O.A. of December 30, 2004

Please replace the Abstract as filed with the following:

ABSTRACT

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Dkt. No.: 33810/US

A silencer for a vacuum cleaner is provided and includes at least one hermetic expansion chamber mounted in an exhaust channel of the vacuum cleaner and allowing an exhaust airflow from the vacuum cleaner to pass through. The expansion chamber at its two sides has an inlet and an outlet connected to the exhaust channel. A silencing board is mounted in the expansion chamber, separating the inlet from the outlet. Pores are distributed throughout in the silencing board. The silencer integrates several different silencing structures together, and, when mounted to the exhaust port of the vacuum cleaner, can considerably diminish the noise generated by the vacuum cleaner in operation.